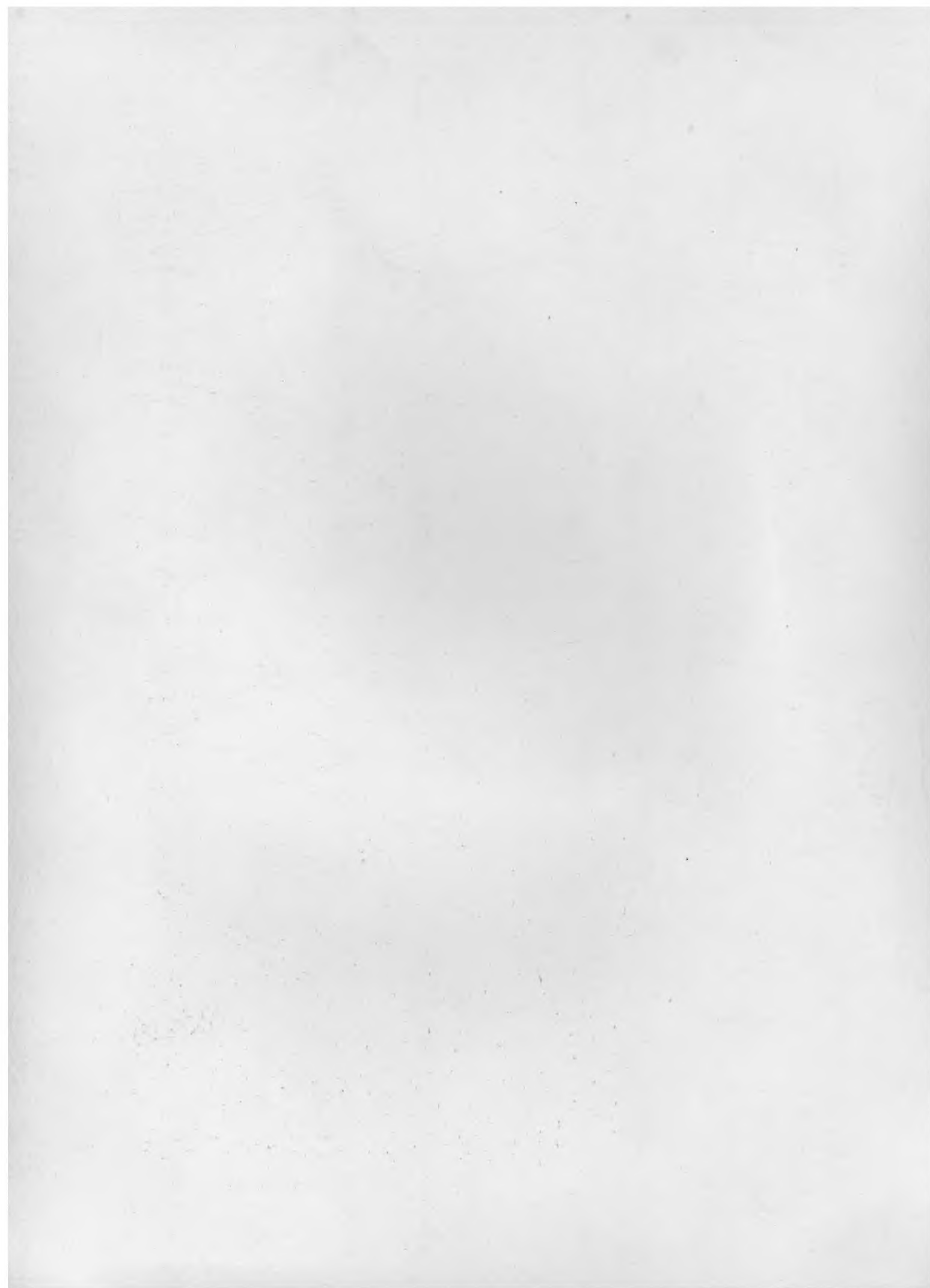


Dedication
CALGARY WARD

Tuesday, July 1st, 1941



with
many
signatures

50

Greetings!

THE Bishopric of the Calgary Ward welcome all to the Dedication of our new Meeting House. We feel that it has been a grand and glorious privilege to be in this office during the completion of this project.

A Bishopric does not realize what a fine plan the General Authorities have in building Churches until one is started in their own ward. The co-operative plan whereby the ward furnishes part of the expense and the balance from the head of the Church unites the people of the ward with the whole Church as nothing else could do. We and all the members of our ward have learned to appreciate the wonderful organization of our Church and its scope and interest in each of the many wards making up the whole. Never before have we realized the personal interest that those at the head of the Church have shown for our needs peculiar to our own Calgary Ward. We wish here to thank them and express the appreciation of every member of the Calgary Ward for the service they have given us.

In the midst of this project now completed the Bishopric have found an individuality expressed from each member of the ward that we feel could have been found in no other way. There has been a shoulder to shoulder contact of man to man and it has left a brotherly feeling throughout the membership

of our ward. We have learned to appreciate our members as individuals more fully. Men and women who before seemed to be on the outside of the ward activities have come forward in the work of this project and have found a power of expression in their different types of work accomplished. This has given them fellowship and courage to find themselves in the brotherhood of the Church. We have become re-acquainted as it were and have found that the desire has been in their hearts to do something for a long time but waited for a familiar means of expression. Many converts to the Church have come through such contact with men and women working together in a common cause. Members of the Church have received added Testimony of the Blessings of God because of the Faith necessary to carry on in face of personal difficulties and financial worries about their own and our whole building project.

We have finally come through with a smile on our faces and a feeling that God has been good to us, collectively and individually. Without a doubt we feel that every member of the ward has been abundantly blessed during the construction of our Church. Our sincere hope and prayer is that we all may appreciate this great Blessing as we should and always remember the Power in Faith and Works in a Common Cause for Good.

CALGARY WARD BISHOPRIC.

THE
MEETING HOUSE
AS IT STANDS
TODAY



Ward Historical Sketch

FEBRUARY 2, 1913—the beacon date of the dedication of the beautiful new Church on the hill—the beacon date because it heralded a series of events which led to making the Calgary Ward what it now is.

February 2, 1913—when in the home of Bro. and Sister Dudley, 1037 - 13th Avenue West, the first Latter-Day Saint meeting in Calgary was held. Seven people took up the banner of the Church and paved the way for six hundred more. Bro. and Sister Dudley, Bro. Clarke, Bro. J. W. Evans, Bro. Golden, Bro. John H. Sheppard and Bro. Jacobs who presided—these faithful saints with foresight and vision set the path for us to follow.

The first meeting to be held in a hall was held February 16, 1913, in Nolan's Hall. This hall was only available in the mornings so at first there were only Sunday School meetings, but the Saints were not downhearted. The other organizations, beginning with the Relief Society, were formed, and the meetings held in private homes. Curtains were put up to form classrooms, boxes of any kind served as chairs—it was the evolution period.

Nolan's Hall was used as a meeting place until the middle of the war (1914-1918), when meetings were temporarily stopped. But not for long. Immediately after the war things got in full swing again—but this time in Sandstone Hall. Garbutt's Business College and Nolan's Hall followed Sandstone Hall, and then in 1923 the old Church on 13th Avenue was purchased.

This was the climax of the early efforts of the Saints in Calgary; and it was a stepping-stone to greater things.

The Presiding Elders during this early period did much to hasten the development of the Calgary Branch. Bro. Z. W. Jacobs, who, in March, 1913, became the first Presiding

Elder, was succeeded by Bro. G. A. Christensen, August, 1913. Bro. Christensen was followed by Bro. John H. Sheppard, March, 1914; Bro. Henry Downs, February 1920; and by Bro. Berg Ellingson, November, 1921.

Thus the Church in Calgary grew from a branch of the Cardston First Ward to an independent branch; and then on August 12, 1923, it became a ward, with Berg Ellingson as Bishop; John H. Sheppard, first Counsellor; Arthur Bergeson, second Counsellor, and John H. Sheppard, Jr., Ward Clerk.

In the old Church the ward grew rapidly—because there they could hold all their meetings whenever they wished. A work program was organized and then, as now, the members put their shoulders to the wheel and did their best for the improvement of the Church.

On January 8, 1928, Bro. John H. Sheppard became a Bishop—a position he filled very faithfully and well for eleven years. He was succeeded in 1939 by Morgan H. Pitcher.

The membership of the ward increased too rapidly for the old Church—it just wasn't big enough—so in July, 1937, the lovely brick Church on the hill was begun. Under able direction and willing co-operation the first sod was dug, the bricks laid, the framework built, the finishing touches artistically added—until now the completed structure is a monument to the co-operation, industry and faith of the Saints in Calgary. There on the hill it stands—overlooking the most beautiful view in the city—a beacon to truth and light for all to see.

July 1, 1941—the completion of a great work—the culmination of twenty-eight years of progress—and yet just the beginning of a new era for the Saints in Calgary—a period of further progress, teeming with life and light—ever onward and upward. The Saints in Calgary are definitely “On the March.”



GROUP PRESENT AT DEDICATION OF GROUNDS

“*Z*ION stands with hills surrounded.” In the heart of these hills, in the great Salt Lake Valley, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints stands as the fountain-head of truth. The vast, rugged peaks of the Rocky Mountains symbolize the eternal strength and vastness of the gospel.

And these same mountains, rising even more majestic, more rugged, form an unbroken chain that stretches northward, across borders, across valleys, over man-made lines and boundaries, until they disappear into the Arctic Ocean.

It is in the shadow of these peaks, on a river that springs from their most beautiful valley, that the Calgary Ward Chapel is situated. High on a hill, the House of Worship commands a view that is truly inspiring. Below, sheltered in the valley of the river, lies the City of Calgary. To the East, the great plain of the American Continent stretches as

President Asael
E. Palmer
Breaking the sod.



far as the eye can see. To the West, towering, snow-capped peaks provide a jeweled setting for this magnificent chapel site.

On a bright summer afternoon, when this awe-inspiring panorama was particularly beautiful, President A. E. Palmer dedicated the chosen spot for the erection of the Calgary Ward Chapel. That was on July 18th, 1937. It marked the fruitful end of a long search, and the beginning of the present beautiful building.

Truly, the Calgary Ward is blessed in being able to worship in so lovely a place. And Calgary Ward members are blessed that they can “lift up their eyes unto the hills” to the mighty hills that form an eternal link with the everlasting hills of Zion.

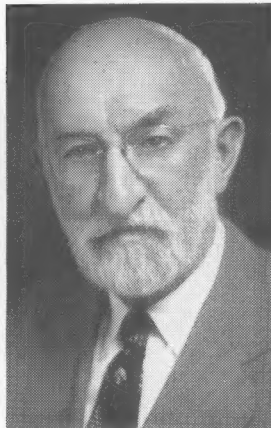


UNDER
CONSTRUCTION
OCTOBER,
1937

FIRST PRESIDENCY



Reuben J. Clark, Jr.



Heber J. Grant



David O. MacKay

David O. MacKay
To the Members of Calgary Ward

WE are happy to extend our congratulations to the members of the Calgary Ward of Lethbridge Stake for your splendid achievement in erecting a ward building which is a credit to the Church.

We are happy to know that our brethren and sisters, in what to us is a far away land, have shown the faith, courage and determination to bring to a successful completion such a magnificent building. We feel sure that the blessings of the Lord will be manifested to all who have contributed in any way to this very worthy undertaking, and that in your new home the members of your ward will be very happy.

It is encouraging to us to see beautiful buildings erected in so many places through the Church, as it indicates a willingness to make sacrifices and render service in the work of our Heavenly Father. We commend you for your splendid accomplishment.

Yours sincerely,

THE PRESIDING BISHOPRIC.

PRESIDING BISHOPRIC



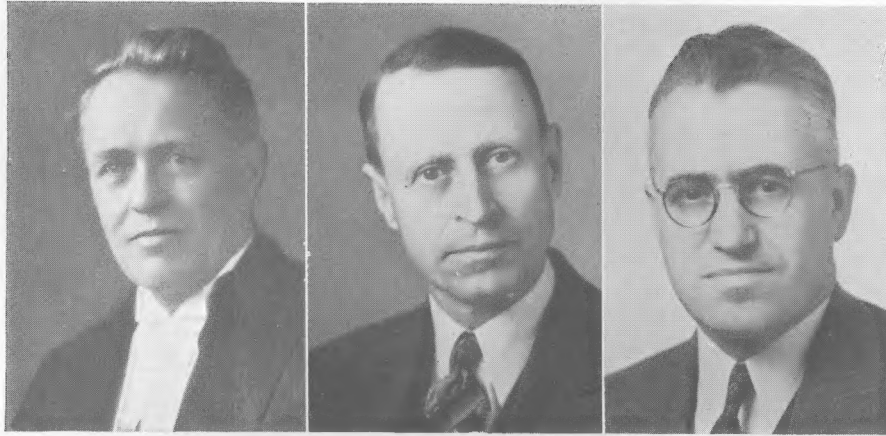
Marvin O. Ashton



LeGrand Richards



Joseph Wirthlin



H. OSTLUND
1st Counselor

ASAEL E. PALMER
President

O. W. URSENBACH
2nd Counselor

Greetings from Lethbridge Stake Presidency

THE members of the Lethbridge Stake extend greetings to the Calgary Ward and rejoice with you on the completion and dedication of your ward building.

The urge to create and the desire for worship is deep-seated. With you, as with all Latter-Day Saints, this has been intensified by your training and your faith. You built, not merely to satisfy the creative instinct, but purposefully that you might have a place in which to worship, through play and dance, through song and prayer.

Truly you have builded well and joyfully. Each nail and board, each brick and tile has become a part of the warp and woof of your ward life. This is indeed your ward home.

You who visualized the building felt that it was almost beyond your reach. It seemed to present a long, hard, painful task. The task was long and hard, but not painful. Your

enthusiasm and faithful endeavour made it a work of love and joy.

This accomplishment has given you more than a house. Your work together has developed a fellowship and fraternity in your ward that is more valuable than any building. You feel truly that you are brothers and sisters in the work of the Lord.

Your lives have been made bigger and better by the work you have done. May you ever keep that broad and forward outlook you now possess. In that way the realization of your hopes, which have now been fulfilled, will not turn as dust in your hands but will continue to be a blessing to you and to those who follow. That is the path of righteous progress.

HJALDAMAR OSTLUND.

ASAEL E PALMER.

OCTAVE W. URSENBACH.

GEO. T. WOOD
Pres. Taylor Stake



E. J. WOOD
Pres. Alberta Stake and
Alberta Temple

Edna J. Wood
J. M. Jacobs



Mayor's Office, Calgary, Canada,

June 23, 1941.

I have learned with much pleasure that you propose to dedicate your new church in Calgary on Dominion Day.

I desire to extend my congratulations. As I live in the Rosedale district and pass your church every day, I have watched with much interest the development of your property. You are gradually transforming it into a beauty spot of which you have just reason to be proud.

I sincerely trust your dedication ceremonies will be a great success and I wish to extend a welcome to all members of your church from outside points who will be in Calgary for your celebration.

With kind personal regards, I remain,

Yours very truly,

A. DAVISON,

Mayor.

THE ROYAL PARTY
PASSING
THE CHURCH



KING George and Queen Elizabeth the much loved and respected rulers of our great nation, visited Calgary May 26th, 1939. It was a beautiful day and Calgary was delighted with the quiet charm, the grace and simplicity of the Queen, and the sincerity and earnestness of King George. It was indeed a day that will long be remembered by the thousands of Albertans who thronged the city.

The Latter Day Saints of Calgary and District joined with the other Calgarians in the welcome of Their Majesties. Because of the beautiful view of the city and mountains from

the top of the hill the Royal Procession was routed past the Church, and many of the members gathered here to salute the royal couple.

Among those present on this notable occasion were Elder Joseph Wirthlin of the Presiding Bishopric from Salt Lake City, President Edward J. Wood of the Alberta Temple and Alberta Stake, and President A. E. Palmer of the Lethbridge Stake. Among those formally presented to the King and Queen at the Calgary City Hall were Mayor D. H. Elton, K.C., of Lethbridge, a member of the Lethbridge Stake High Council, and Mrs. Elton.



ALBERTA
TEMPLE

BUILDING COMMITTEE



1. JOHN H. TURNER
Former Chairman
2. MORGAN H.
PITCHER
Chairman
3. A. L. McPHEE
Superintendent

THE building of our Meeting House is now past history,—the seemingly impossible has been accomplished. For several years there was a need for a larger building, but with no money on hand and no means in sight by which to raise it in large enough amounts for such an undertaking, it seemed the time had not yet arrived. But the need continued and the desire on the part of the ward members grew to a point where it must be satisfied. Under the Bishopric a general meeting was held, the problem discussed, and a definite decision was made to build. The Committee chosen to head this project consisted of J. H. Turner as chairman, Lloyd Ririe, A. L. McPhee and Howard Oliver. At a later date Charles Ursenbach was added to the Committee as Secretary-Treasurer.

The choosing of the site was one problem that received more attention than is usually given such a decision. Months elapsed during which the whole city was combed for a suitable site. The one that was finally chosen has proved to be the best obtainable,—a site overlooking the city and the Bow River, and offering a grand view of the Rocky Mountains.

President A. E. Palmer and the Presiding Bishopric chose the plans for the building, duplicating one used in several other wards of the Church. A major change was needed to provide a cloak room, so local architects were employed to make the necessary changes.

The practice of the Presiding Bishop's Office in the past had been to build as was needed, sharing the cost with the ward. It was decided that before Calgary built they must engage a dependable contractor at a guaranteed contract price. At first this seemed an added expense and a barrier almost too great to overcome, but time proved the wisdom of this arrangement. Bids were received from four firms; the contract finally being let to Buchan Construction Company. An agreement was reached with this company allowing the Building Committee the privilege of sub-contracting various parts of the job, and in this way use donation labor and materials. Let it be said here that Mr. Buchan co-operated wholeheartedly in this procedure and was highly regarded by all for his fairness and honesty. To him is due a great deal of credit.

J. H. Turner, who had so capably acted as Chairman of the Building Committee to this point, found it impossible to continue in this capacity, and decided to retire as an active member of the



CHAPEL

Committee. His support, however, both in an advisory capacity and in a financial way continued to the completion of the project. He was replaced as Chairman by M. H. Pitcher, no other change being made in the Committee.

The purchase of the site was made in November, 1936, and the grounds dedicated on July 18th, 1937. The goal set by the Committee to be reached before winter set in was the completion of the excavation and the foundation and the walls built to the square. The loyalty of the ward members was expressed so strongly and unitedly and in such a practical way that this goal was reached and passed, the building being roofed and closed in and temporarily heated when cold weather set in. This story was repeated in spirit on each part of the construction. Events moved quickly, so that it was possible to meet in the new building July 24th, 1938. However, regular meetings were not held until the Fall of that year.

In January of 1939 Bishop John H. Sheppard and his Counselors, who had served faithfully and who had gone through the hardest part of the work of building, were released, being replaced by Bishop Morgan H. Pitcher and his Counselors. This, however, made no change in the general plans of completing the construction.

The inside finishing progressed more slowly, lights, chairs, pews, drapes, rugs, all being installed in their turn. But the time finally arrived when the dedication of the building and furnishings was in sight. The contemplation of this added new life to the program and a last united effort caught up the tag ends and completed the project by the end of June, 1941.

Much credit is due the Building Committee who undertook this task. They, with the support of the ward members, made an accomplishment that many thought was impossible. To them the building is a symbol of the co-operative efforts of a united body of Latter-Day Saints.

The building stands high on the hill overlooking the city and is already a well known landmark to the citizens of Calgary. It is not too much to expect that it will wield a powerful influence on the lives of the members of the Church who come to Calgary. Especially is this true of the many young people who come here to attend the various schools and colleges. It will always be a ward home to the humble people whose sacrifice made its erection possible.



RECREATION HALL

BUILDING COMMITTEE

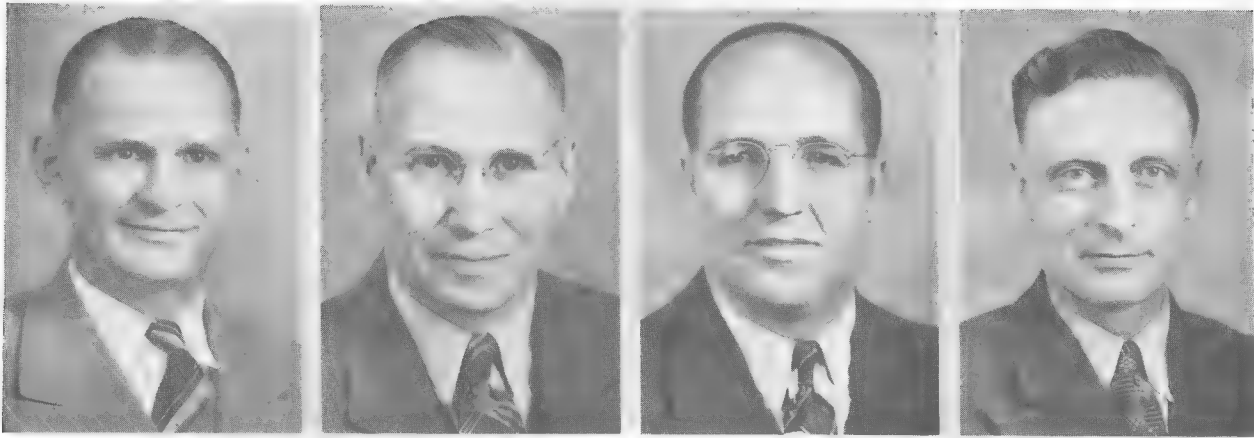


1. CHARLES
URSENBACH
Secretary-Treasurer

2. LLOYD J. RIRIE

3. HOWARD H. H.
OLIVER

BISHOPRIC OF CALGARY WARD



M. H. PITCHER
Bishop

CHAS. URSENBACH
1st Counselor

DORAL PILLING
2nd Counselor

GENE WIGHT
Ward Clerk

O the men who went before us, to those men with the daring and foresight to be pioneers, the world owes much. Such were the men who laid the foundation of the still growing Calgary Ward.

One of the foremost of these men is our past Bishop John Sheppard. Under his guidance with the able assistance of his counselors, Elder Ririe and Elder Stockdale and others, the Ward progressed for many years.

Then the new Church, an event that marked the beginning of a new era for the Calgary Ward. With its completion near, Bishop Sheppard was released. In the same unassuming manner with which he had guided the Ward he now relinquishes this highly honorable office to his able successor, Morgan Pitcher.

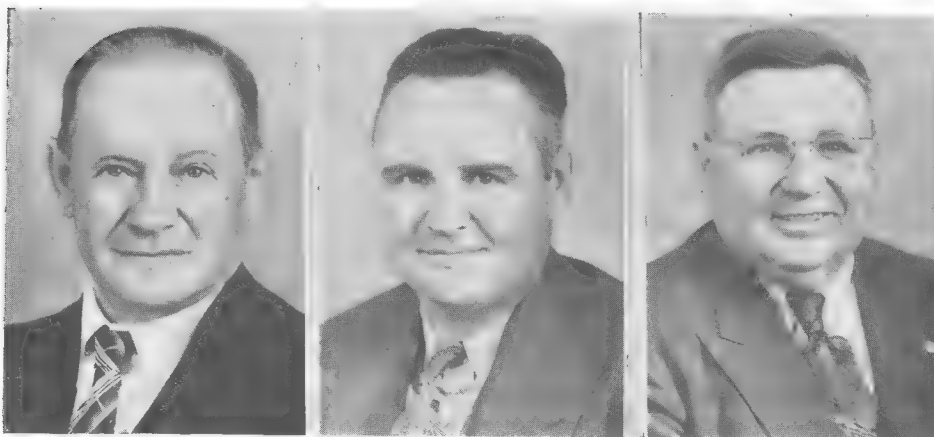
Bishop Sheppard was a man, who by his unselfish disposition, loyalty to the truth and

steadfast devotion to the Church, wielded an influence in the growing Ward that will not be forgotten for many years to come. To those who worked with him in the past he is still "Bishop."

Morgan H. Pitcher was ordained Bishop of the Calgary Ward on January 30th, 1939. For his counselors he chose Charles Ursenbach and Doral Pilling.

The new Bishopric shouldered the growing responsibilities of the Ward with an enthusiasm that has overcome many obstacles. They have devoted their time and talents to the development of the Ward. Much of the rapid progress of the Ward for the past three years is due to their ability to cope with the varied and changing program of the Ward and Church. With such able guidance the future looks bright indeed.

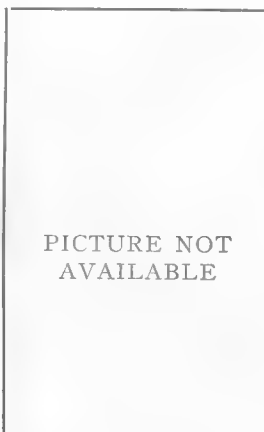
RETIRED BISHOPRIC



J. H. SHEPPARD
Bishop

LLOYD RIRIE
1st Counselor

R. STOCKDALE
2nd Counselor



JACK SHEPPARD
Ward Clerk

RELIEF SOCIETY



Lucile
Ursenbach
President

Cleo Ririe
1st Counselor

Luella Bulman
2nd Counselor

Dorothy Pilling
Secretary

Arlo Palmer
Welfare
Supervisor

Ethel Rabidou
Stake S.S.
Representative

Claud Roberts
Lesser
Priesthood Sup.

Janet Boucher
Ex-Primary
Superintendent

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Lloyd Ririe
Superintendent

Miles Platt
1st Assistant

A. L. Low
2nd Assistant

Florence
Sheppard
Secretary

Merlin Shafer
President

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Available

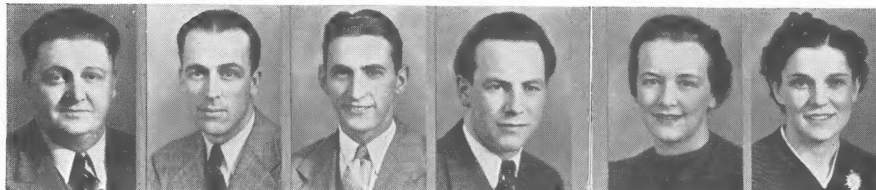


Beth Cotterill
Secretary

H. E. Wright
Stake Mission.
Dist. Pres.

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Y. M. M. I. A.



Howard Rabidou
Superintendent

Dean Gibb
Counselor

Leron Stewart
Counselor

Wm. Brown
Secretary

Lola McPhee
President

Fredda Kenny
Counselor

Picture
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Available



Gertrude
Jensen
Counselor

Mary McPhee
Secretary

Y. W. M. I. A.

PRIMARY ASSOCIATION



Mary Platt
President

Regena Low
1st Counselor

Wyora Pilling
2nd Counselor

Mattie Brown
Secretary

Laura Sheppard
President

Leron Stewart
Director

Beth Earl
Organist

WARD CHOIR

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★ ★ ★

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